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SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : What is meant by Standard sand? To what use is it put?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Standard sand is used for testing cement and concrete. It is mixed and used for a particular variety of ceramics and so on. It is not really used as sand but it is mixed with something else and used. Hitherto we were importing this sand from England and it is now found that the Ennore sands are of the same quality as the imported sand. The Indian Standard Institute has approved of this sand.

State Transport buses

* 198 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to supply the conductors of the State Transport buses in the City with some contrivance to give moisture to the fingers for the issue of tickets?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : No, Sir. But instructions have been issued to the conductors not to adopt unhygienic methods for issue of tickets.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : What are the definite instructions issued by the Government to the conductors in the matter of the none-use of their saliva for separating tickets?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Those are the instructions given.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : They want moisture. Have the Government provided them, for instance, with a plastic bowl with a sponge just as the conductors in England have got?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is not necessary. It is easily possible to take out a single ticket. I do not think it is so difficult to take out one ticket from the bundle and I do not think it is necessary to give such assistance to conductors for issuing tickets.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it not a fact that in banks, the shroffs keep a bowl and a wet sponge is kept near for counting currency notes?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is so.

Allotment of iron and steel

* 199 *Q.*—SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state the quota of iron and steel allotted to the State during the months of November and December 1960?

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THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : No separate allotments were made for the months of November and December 1960. Allotments are made for each half-year (i.e., from April to September and from October to March). The receipts of iron and steel under the non-agricultural quota during November and December 1960 are as under :—

	November 1960.	December 1960.
Standard Steel	711 tons.	711 tons.
Surplus allotment	224 ,,	204 ,,
Scrap	163 ,,	503 ,,

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Is it a fact that Madras has been allotted a lesser quota and that some of these months, there was poor supply with the result that many of the small industries have to stop production?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Compared to our needs, the quota is small. But it is not a question of allotment. It is really a question of receipts. There has been considerable delay in getting all these allotments from Calcutta. There have been a number of excuses like transport difficulties and so on. We have taken up this matter strongly with the Iron and Steel Controller at Calcutta and I am glad to announce that he has arranged to supply 3,000 tons of steel and 1,000 tons of pig iron on a special assignment.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : The Hon. Minister referred to difficulties of transport like lack of wagons and all that. Will the Government of Madras have a permanent official stationed either at Calcutta or Delhi to see that these allotments reach us at the earliest?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is a very useful idea, to have some one at Calcutta to look to the despatch of these materials. But I thought that should be done by persons who are engaged in the trade. I suggest for the consideration of the trade, viz., the stockholders, that they have an agent in Calcutta to see that the despatches take place regularly.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Is the Hon. Minister aware that the entire allotments come on Government account and are distributed by the Government to the stockholders? Therefore, will it not be better if Government have an agent than if the private traders have?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The hon. Member's assumption is incorrect. Except in the case of black plain sheets, galvanized plain sheets, galvanized corrugated sheets, plates and wires, all items are despatched to the registered stockholders against their own indents. Therefore, it is not correct to say that these are all received and distributed by the Government.

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SRI K. V. RAMASWAMY : விவசாயிகளுக்கு வேண்டிய விவசாயக் கருவிகள் அவர்களுக்குக் கூடிய சீக்கிரம் கிடைப்பதற்கு சர்க்காரால் ஏதாவது ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்பட்டிருக்கிறதா ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : That is under the agricultural quota. If the hon. Member wants information, I can furnish it on receipt of notice of a separate question.

Government Girls' High Schools

* 200 *Q*.—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the number of Government High schools in the State as on 1st April 1960 and the number of untrained graduates employed in those schools during 1958–59 and 1959–60?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (1) Number of Government High Schools for Girls under the Education Department as on 1st April 1960 is 25.

(2) Number of untrained graduates employed in the above schools during 1958–59 and 1959–60 were 21 and 11 respectively.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Is it a fact that trained women teachers are unwilling to apply for Governnment jobs because of the frequent transfers involved and because they are kept in the jobs on a temporary basis for a number of years?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : On the other hand, in 1959–60, there were only eleven untrained graduates and others were all trained. So, I do not think there was any hesitancy on their part. Perhaps, the scales of pay did not attract them much. But now they have been made quite attractive.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Is it not a fact that the present procedure for appointment of untrained teachers involves lot of time because the District Educational Officer or the Inspector has to be consulted? Is there any proposal to empower the headmistresses to appoint untrained teachers for a period of six months?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : When trained teachers are available, why have untrained teachers? Hence these restrictions even in respect of private schools, with regard to employment of untrained teachers. Some control will have to be exercised.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Are these untrained teachers paid on a par with trained teachers? If not, what is their pay?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : They have got different scales of pay. I am sorry, I do not have the details with me now.